Section II (Remarks)

Amendment of Claims 46, 47 and 49

Claim 46 has been amended herein to further specify the invention. Amended claim 46 now recites a nanoparticulate membrane "wherein an oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator capable of transferring electrons are diffusibly dispersed in said nanoparticulate membrane to allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample, when the membrane is exposed to a said test sample."

Such amendment therefore elaborates the meaning of the term "diffusibly dispersed" and specifies that the diffusional mobility of the oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator encompass diffusion within the membrane as well as into a test sample comprising the analyte when the membrane is exposed to the sample.

The amended language of claim 46 is fully consistent and supported by the originally filed disclosure of the application. See, for example, paragraph [0053] ("[t]he sample chamber 14, with the nanocomposite membrane 18 therein, receives the analyte for analysis thereof by wicking or capillary action …the diffusible redox mediator may diffuse rapidly into the analyte"), paragraph [0065] ("[m]ediators, enzymes and analytes such as glucose can then move freely within this layer, whereas interfering species, such as red blood cells containing oxygenated hemoglobin are excluded from entering the membrane due to electrostatic repulsion"), paragraph [0073] ("diffusional mediators are typically lower in molecular weight and can leach out of the electrode…in the sample") and paragraph [0136] ("glucose and mediators move freely within this layer").

Claim 47 has been amended to correct the capitalization of the word "Claim," for consistency with the other claims now pending in the application.

Claim 49 has been amended for consistency with claim 46, from which it depends, and the capitialization of the word "Claim" has been corrected for consistency with other claims in the application.

Rejection of Claims 46-56 Under 35 USC 103 (A) Over Rauh in view of Bu

In the January 9, 2009 Office Action, claims 46-56 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Rauh in view of Bu. This rejection is traversed in application to the claims as now amended herein. Reconsideration of the patentability of the amended claims is requested, in light of the following remarks.

Patentability of Claims 46-56 Over the Art

In the statement of rejection of page 3 of the January 9, 2009 Office Action, it is stated that "[t]he claims differ from Rauh in that they specify the matrix is an acrylamide polymer." In fact, the claims now pending in the application do not specify any matrix nor do they refer to an acrylamide polymer matrix.

Claim 46, from which all other pending claims directly or indirectly depend, recites a nanoparticulate membrane "wherein an oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator capable of transferring electrons are diffusibly dispersed in said nanoparticulate membrane to allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample, when the membrane is exposed to a said test sample." The combination of Rauh in view of Bu fails to disclose or provide any derivative basis for such a nanoparticulate membrane.

At page 4 of the January 9, 2009 Office Action, concerning Rauh, it is contended "that the membrane of Rauh teaches substances including the same enzymes and mediators as presently claimed are diffusibly dispersed within the membrane." This statement then is followed by references to immobilization teachings in Rauh ("co-immobilization of bio-molecules in the membrane is described…various methods of immobilizing the enzyme in the membrane are discussed" (Office Action, p. 4, lines 11-13), after which it is concluded that "[i]t would seem

that this description of the dispersion of the enzyme of the matrix would be encompassed by diffusibly dispersed."

In fact, the foregoing statements in the Office Action ignore the import of the word "diffusibly" as specifying the dispersed character of the oxidoreductase enzyme polymeric redox mediator in the membrane of applicants' claimed invention.

Because the oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator in the membrane of applicants' claimed invention are diffusibly dispersed in the membrane and thus capable of diffusion, such species are mobile and not immobilized as taugh by Rauh. This basis of distinction has been further specified in amended claim 46 by the recital by the oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator as being "diffusibly dispersed in said nanoparticulate membrane to allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample, when the membrane is exposed to a said test sample."

In this respect, the Rauh teachings are clear that oxidoreductase is immobilized in the membrane, so that after preparation of the membrane the position of the oxidoreductase is fixed and unchanging. See, for example, Rauh at:

- column 3, lines 56-64 ("a sensor electrode that responds to molecular species recognized by the immobilized biomolecules…a matrix incorporating redox centers which can transfer an electron directly to/from an active redox center within the immobilized biomolecule");
- column 4, line 66 ("Co-immobilization of biomolecules");
- column 6, lines 19-22 ("Enzyme solutions may also be dropped onto individual array elements and allowed to become immobilized by absorption, similar to well known enzyme immobilizations in porous silica and titania");
- column 6, lines 37-38 ("enzyme entrapment in a hydrous Ir oxide matrix");
- column 8, lines 66-67 ("Additional electron transfer mediators can be co-immobilized into the oxide matrix");
- column 9, lines 57-58 ("the hydrous oxides can be used to immobilize any biomolecule in the hydrous metal oxide");

- column 10, lines 9-10 ("Immobilizing enzyme substrates in the hydrous metal oxide matrix");
- column 11, lines 1 ("entrap GOx, e.g., polypyrrole") and lines 33-34 ("some of the GOx is buried deeper in the Ir oxide matrix and is more protected"); and
- column 12, lines 34-35 ("the enzyme GOx becomes trapped in the oxide matrix"),

as teaching that the enzyme is immobilized in the membrane of Rauh.

See also **Appendix A** of this Response, containing a copy of the title page, copyright page, and page containing the definition of "immobilized," from Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language (Portland House, 1996), wherein "immobilized" is defined as "to make immobile; fix so as to be or become immovable."

It is clear from the foregoing that the enzyme in the Rauh membrane is not in any way "diffusibly dispersed," as required by applicants' amended claims. Contrariwise, the enzyme in the Rauh membrane is immobilized, and cannot diffuse within and out of the membrane, as required by the presently claimed invention. In applicants' claimed invention, "an oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator capable of transferring electrons are diffusibly dispersed in said nanoparticulate membrane to allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample, when the membrane is exposed to a said test sample" (claim 46, as herein amended).

Bu has been cited for showing acrylamide polymer with polyvinylferrocene for sensor membranes and function of the material. Such showing, however, does not alter the fact that Rauh teaches a membrane containing an immobilized enzyme, contrary to the requirements of applicants' claimed invention. As pointed out in applicants' last Response filed November 20, 2008, Bu at page 3953 teaches "fixed redox-active VF residues," i.e., a redox polymer that is present in a fixed position and that is not "diffusibly dispersed … to allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample" as required by applicants' claimed invention.

The combination of Rauh in view of Bu therefore does not provide disclosure of, or any logical basis for, a membrane wherein "an oxidoreductase enzyme and polymeric redox mediator capable of transferring electrons are diffusibly dispersed in said nanoparticulate membrane to

allow diffusion thereof within the membrane and into a test sample, when the membrane is exposed to a said test sample," as required by presently amended claim 46, from which all remaining claims 47-56 directly or indirectly depend.

At page 4 of the Office Action, it is stated that "for the membrane to function, the analyte must have contact with both the enzyme and the mediator and for the reactions to continue beyond initial contact, the enzyme and mediator must be maintained in such a fashion that the contacting continues for the desired time period." In this respect, it is noted that applicants' membrane allowing the enzyme and polymeric redox mediator to diffuse freely, functions extremely effectively as demonstrated by the results of Examples 5-8 at pages 36-46 of the present application.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is requested that the rejection of claims 46-56 based on Rauh in view of Bu be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Claims 46-56 have been shown to be patentably differentiated over Rauh in view Bu, and such claims are now in form and condition of allowance.

Issue of a Notice of Allowance therefore is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary

of the English Language

PORTLAND HOUSE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND PERMISSIONS

The "A dictionary of the English Language" section of this *(Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary)* is based on the first edition of The *Random House Dictionary of the English Language, the Unabridged Edition*, copyright © 1983.

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O, Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultive Or-zation.
International Monetary Fund. Also, I.M.F.

i·az·ole (im′id az′ōl, -id ə zōl′), *n. Chem.* a color-crystalline, water-soluble, heterocyclic compound, $C_3H_3N_2$, used chiefly in organic synthesis. Also called **xaline.** [IMID(E) + AZOLE]

le (im′id, im′id), *n. Chem.* a compound derived i ammonia by replacement of two hydrogen atoms acidic groups, characterized by the =NH group. F. of AMIDE] —**i·mid·ic** (i mid′ik), *adj.*

do (im′i dō′), *adj. Chem.* containing the imido p. [independent use of IMIDO-]

lo-, a combining form of imide: *imidogen.*

i·o·gen (i mid′ə jen, i mē′də-), *n.* the imino p, esp. in an uncombined state. [IMIDO- + -GEN]

do group′, *Chem.* 1. the bivalent group, =NH, ed to one or two acid groups. 2. (erroneously) lo. Also called **im′ido rad′ical.**

ne (i mēn′, im′in), *n. Chem.* a compound con-ing the =NH group united with a nonacid group. R. of AMINE]

no (im′ə nō′), *adj. Chem.* containing the imino p. [independent use of IMINO-]

io-, a combining form of imino: *iminourea.*

no group′, *Chem.* the bivalent group, =NH, not ed to any acid group. Also called **im′ino rad′ical, imido.**

·no·u·re·a (i mē′nō yŏŏ rē′ə, ə nō yŏŏ-, im′ə nō yŏŏr′-), *n. Chem.* guanidine. NO- + UREA]

.., 1. imitation. 2. imitative.

·ta·ble (im′i tə bəl), *adj.* capable of being imi-d. [< L *imitābil(is),* equiv. to *imitā(rī)* (to) imitate *bilis* -BLE] —**im′i·ta·bil′i·ty, im′i·ta·ble·ness,** *n.*

·tate (im′i tāt′), *v.t.,* **-tat·ed, -tat·ing.** 1. to follow ndeavor to follow in action or manner. 2. to copy; oic; counterfeit. 3. to make a copy of; reproduce sely. 4. to have or assume the appearance of; ulate. [< L *imitātus* copied, ptp. of *imitārī;* see ATE] —**im′i·ta′tor,** *n.*

yn. 2. ape, mock, impersonate; simulate. 3. TATE, COPY, DUPLICATE, REPRODUCE all mean to ow or try to follow an example or pattern. IMITATE is general word for the idea: *to imitate someone's hand-ting, behavior.* To COPY is to make a fairly exact tation of an original creation: *to copy a sentence, a ss, a picture.* To DUPLICATE is to produce something ich exactly resembles or corresponds to something ; both may be originals: *to duplicate the terms of two tracts.* To REPRODUCE is to make a likeness or recon-uction of an original: *to reproduce a 16th-century theater.*

i·ta·tion (im′i tā′shən), *n.* 1. a result or product of tating. 2. act of imitating. 3. *Sociol.* the copying of terns of activity and thought of other groups or in-iduals. 4. *Biol.* close external resemblance of an or-ism to some other organism or to objects in its en-onment. 5. *Psychol.* the performance of an act whose nulus is the observation of the act performed by an-er person. 6. a counterfeit; copy. 7. a literary opposition that imitates the manner or subject of nther author or work. 8. *Art.* a. (in Aristotelian thetics) the representation of an object or an action lt ought to be. b. the representation of actuality in or literature. 9. *Music.* the repetition of a melodic rase at a different pitch or key from the original or a different voice part. —*adj.* 10. designed to imitate enuine or superior article or thing: *imitation leather.* . *Jewelry,* noting an artificial gem no part of which is he true gemstone. Cf. assembled, synthetic (def. 5). L, *imitātiōn-* (s. of *imitātiō*). See IMITATE, -ION] **m′i·ta′tion·al,** *adj.*

ita′tion dou′blet, *Jewelry.* 1. a doublet formed irely of glass. 2. an imitation gem made from a single ce of glass.

'ita′tion of Christ′, The, a religious work .17–21) attributed to Thomas à Kempis. Latin, *De itatione Christi.*

i·ta·tive (im′i tə tiv), *adj.* 1. imitating; copying; en to imitation. 2. of, pertaining to, or characterized imitation. 3. *Biol.* mimetic. 4. made in imitation of nething; counterfeit. 5. onomatopoeic. [< LL *itātīv(us).* See IMITATE, -IVE] —**im′i·ta′tive·ly,** *adv.* im′i·ta′tive·ness, *n.*

itative mag′ic, magic that attempts to control a universe through the mimicking of a desired event. by stabbing an image of an enemy in an effort to stroy him or by performing a ritual dance imitative of growth of food in an effort to secure an abundant pply; a branch of sympathetic magic based on the lief that similar actions produce similar results. Also lled **homeopathic magic.** Cf. **contagious magic.**

mac·u·late (i mak′yə lit), *adj.* 1. free from spot or ain; spotlessly clean, as linen. 2. free from moral mish or impurity; pure; undefiled. 3. free from fault flaw; free from errors, as a text. 4. *Biol.* having no ots or colored marks; unicolor. [ME *immaculat* < L *maculātī(us)* unspotted. See IM-², MACULATE] —**im-ac′u·la·cy, im-mac′u·late·ness,** *n.* —**im-mac′u-te·ly,** *adv.*

mac′ulate Concep′tion, *Rom. Cath. Ch.* the ma of the unique privilege by which the Virgin ary was conceived in her mother's womb without the ain of original sin through the anticipated merits of sus Christ. Cf. **virgin birth** (def. 1).

mac′ulate Heart′, *Rom. Cath. Ch.* the physical art of the Virgin Mary to which veneration is paid as a mbol of her charity, virtues, and role as mediatress of vine grace subordinately to Jesus Christ.

·mane (i mān′), *adj. Archaic.* 1. vast in size; ormous. 2. inhumanly cruel. [< L *immān(is),* lit., t good, equiv. to *im-* IM-² + *mānis* good; see MANES] **im-mane′ly,** *adv.* —**im-mane′ness,** *n.*

·ma·nent (im′ə nənt), *adj.* 1. remaining within; in-velling; inherent. 2. *Philos.* (of a mental act) taking ace within the mind of the subject and having no effect utside of it. Cf. **transeunt.** 3. *Theol.* (of the Deity) dwelling the universe, time, etc. Cf. **transcendent** cf. 8). [< LL *immanent-* (s. of *immanēns*) staying in, rp. of *immanēre),* equiv. to *im-* IM-¹ + *man-* stay + *nt-* -ENT; see REMAIN] —**im′ma·nence, im′ma-n·cy,** *n.* —**im′ma·nent·ly,** *adv.*

·man·u·el (i man′yōō əl), *n.* 1. the name of the lessiah as prophesied by Isaiah, often represented in Christian exegesis as being Jesus Christ. Isa. 7:14. 2. a boy's given name. Also, **Emmanuel.** [< Heb *'immānū'ēl* God with us]

im·ma·te·ri·al (im′ə tēr′ē əl), *adj.* 1. of no essential consequence; unimportant. 2. not material; incorporeal; spiritual. [ME < ML *immateriāl(is).* See IM-², MATERIAL] —**im′ma·te′ri·al·ly,** *adv.* —**im′ma·te′ri·al·ness,** *n.*

im·ma·te·ri·al·ise (im′ə tēr′ē ə līz′), *v.t.,* **-lised, -is·ing.** *Chiefly Brit.* immaterialize.

im·ma·te·ri·al·ism (im′ə tēr′ē ə liz′əm), *n.* 1. the doctrine that there is no material world, but that all things exist only in and for minds. 2. the doctrine that only immaterial substances or spiritual beings exist. [IMMATERIAL + -ISM, modeled on *materialism*] —**im′ma·te′ri·al·ist,** *n.*

im·ma·te·ri·al·i·ty (im′ə tēr′ē al′i tē), *n., pl.* **-ties.** 1. state or character of being immaterial. 2. something immaterial. [IMMATERIAL + -ITY]

im·ma·te·ri·al·ize (im′ə tēr′ē ə līz′), *v.t.,* **-ized, -iz·ing.** to make immaterial. Also, *esp. Brit.,* **immaterialise.** [IMMATERIAL + -IZE]

im·ma·ture (im′ə tŏŏr′, -tyŏŏr′, -chŏŏr′), *adj.* 1. not mature, ripe, developed, perfected, etc. 2. *Phys. Geog.* youthful. 3. *Archaic.* premature. [< L *immātūr(us)* unripe, hence, untimely. See IM-², MATURE] —**im′ma·ture′ly,** *adv.* —**im′ma·tu′ri·ty, im′ma·ture′ness,** *n.*

im·meas·ur·a·ble (i mezh′ər ə bəl), *adj.* incapable of being measured; limitless. [late ME *immesurable.* See IN-³, MEASURABLE] —**im·meas′ur·a·bil′i·ty, im-meas′ur·a·ble·ness,** *n.* —**im-meas′ur·a·bly,** *adv.*

im·me·di·a·cy (i mē′dē ə sē), *n.* 1. state, condition, or quality of being immediate. 2. *Philos.* a. immediate presence of an object of knowledge to the mind, without any distortions, inferences, or interpretations, and without involvement of any intermediate agencies. b. the direct content of the mind as distinguished from representation or cognition. [IMMEDIA(TE) + -CY]

im·me·di·ate (i mē′dē it), *adj.* 1. occurring or accomplished without delay; instant; *an immediate reply.* 2. of or pertaining to the present time or moment; *our immediate plans.* 3. following without a lapse of time; *the immediate future.* 4. having no object or space intervening; nearest or next; *in the immediate vicinity.* 5. without intervening medium or agent; direct; *an immediate cause.* 6. having a direct bearing; *immediate consideration.* 7. *Philos.* directly intuited. [< ML *immediāt(us).* See IM-³, MEDIATE] —**im-me′di·ate·ness,** *n.* —**Syn.** 1. instantaneous. 4. close, proximate. 5. See **direct.**

immed′iate annu′ity, *Insurance.* an annuity bought with a single premium, with payments to the annuitant to begin at the end of one payment period, as a month or a year. Cf. **deferred annuity.**

immed′iate constit′uent, *Gram.* one of the usually two largest constituents of a construction: The immediate constituents of *He ate his dinner* are *he* and *ate his dinner;* of *ate his dinner* are *ate* and *his dinner;* etc. *Abbr.:* IC Cf. **ultimate constituent.**

im·me·di·ate·ly (i mē′dē it lē), *adv.* 1. without lapse of time; without delay; instantly; at once. 2. without intervening medium or agent; concerning or affecting directly. 3. with no object or space intervening. 4. closely; *immediately in the vicinity.* —*conj.* 5. *Chiefly Brit.* immediately that; the moment that; as soon as. [late ME; see IMMEDIATE, -LY]

—**Syn.** 1. instantaneously; forthwith. IMMEDIATELY, DIRECTLY, INSTANTLY, PRESENTLY were originally close synonyms denoting complete absence of delay or of any lapse of time. INSTANTLY is the only one retaining the meaning of action or occurrence on the instant; *He replied instantly to the accusation.* It is never used with the future tense (which must suggest a slight delay). IMMEDIATELY may have the same force: *He immediately got up;* more often, a slight delay: *The game will begin immediately.* DIRECTLY is equivalent to SOON or in a little while: *You go ahead, we'll be there directly.* PRESENTLY, which once meant at once, changed to mean soon or in a little while, and, although purists insist on clinging to the sense of soon, current usage equates it with at present: *The author presently lives in San Francisco.* The expressions which have supplanted them are *right away* and *at once* (which is still usually equivalent to immediately): *He will come right away. I want to see him at once.* 2. closely. —**Ant.** 1. later.

im·me·di·a·tism (i mē′dē ə tiz′əm), *n. U.S. Hist.* a policy for the immediate abolition of slavery. [IMMEDIATE + -ISM] —**im·me′di·a·tist,** *n.*

im·med·i·ca·ble (i med′ə kə bəl), *adj.* incurable. [< L *immedicābil(is)* incurable. See IM-², MEDICABLE] —**im·med′i·ca·ble·ness,** *n.* —**im·med′i·ca·bly,** *adv.*

im′mel·mann turn′ (im′əl mən, -man), a maneuver in which an airplane makes a half loop, then resumes its normal, level position by making a half roll: used to gain altitude while turning to fly in the opposite direction. [named after Max *Immelmann,* German aviator in World War I]

im·me·mo·ri·al (im′ə môr′ē əl, -mōr′-), *adj.* extending back beyond memory, record, or knowledge: *from time immemorial.* [< ML *immemoriāl(is).* See IM-², MEMORIAL] —**im′me·mo′ri·al·ly,** *adv.*

im·mense (i mens′), *adj.* 1. vast; huge; very great: *an immense territory.* 2. immeasurable; boundless. 3. *Informal.* very good; fine; splendid: *You did an immense job getting the project started.* [late ME < L *immens(us),* equiv. to *im-* IM-² + *mensus* measured (ptp. of *mētīrī*), equiv. to *ment-* ptp. s. + *-us* ptp. suffix] —**im·mense′ly,** *adv.* —**im·mense′ness,** *n.*

—**Syn.** 1. extensive. See **huge.**

im·men·si·ty (i men′si tē), *n., pl.* **-ties** for 3. 1. vastness; hugeness; enormous extent; *the immensity of the Roman empire.* 2. state or condition of being immense; boundless extent; infinity. 3. a vast expanse; an immense quantity. [late ME < L *immensitās.* See IMMENSE, -ITY]

im·men·su·ra·ble (i men′shŏŏ rə bəl, -sər ə-), *adj.* immeasurable. [< LL *immensurābil(is).* See IM-², MENSURABLE] —**im·men′su·ra·bil′i·ty, im·men′su-ra·ble·ness,** *n.*

im·merge (i mûrj′), *v.,* **-merged, -merg·ing.** —*v.t.* 1. to plunge, as into a fluid. 2. to disappear by entering into any medium, as the moon into the shadow of the sun. —*v.i.* 3. *Rare.* to immerse. [< L *immerge(re)* (to) dip, plunge, sink. See IM-¹, MERGE] —**im·mer′gence,** *n.*

im·merse (i mûrs′), *v.t.,* **-mersed, -mers·ing.** 1. to plunge into or place under a liquid; dip; sink. 2. to baptize by immersion. 3. to embed; bury. 4. to involve deeply; absorb. [< L *immers(us)* dipped, plunged into (ptp. of *immergere*), equiv. to *im-* IM-¹ + *mers-* dip + *-us* ptp. suffix] —**im·mers′i·ble,** *adj.*

—**Syn.** 1. immerge, duck, douse. See **dip.** 4. engage. —**Ant.** 3. disinter.

im·mersed (i mûrst′), *adj.* 1. plunged or sunk in or as in a liquid. 2. *Biol.* somewhat or wholly sunk in the surrounding parts, as an organ. 3. *Bot.* baptized. [IMMERSE + -ED²]

im·mer·sion (i mûr′zhən, -shən), *n.* 1. act of immersing. 2. state of being immersed. 3. baptism in which the whole body of the person is submerged in the water. 4. state of being deeply engaged; absorption. 5. Also called **ingress.** *Astron.* the entrance of a heavenly body into an eclipse by another body, an occultation, or a transit. Cf. **emersion** (def. 1). [late ME < LL *immersiōn-* (s. of *immersiō*) a dipping in. See IMMERSE, -ION]

im·mer·sion·ism (i mûr′zhə niz′əm, -shə-), *n.* 1. the doctrine that immersion is essential to Christian baptism. 2. the practice of baptism by immersion. [IMMERSION + -ISM] —**im·mer′sion·ist,** *n.*

immer′sion scale′, *Naut.* a scale showing the depth to which a vessel will be immersed under various loads. Also called **draft scale.**

im·mesh (i mesh′), *v.t.* enmesh.

im·me·thod·i·cal (im′ə thod′i kəl), *adj.* not methodical; without method. [IM-² + METHODICAL] —**im′me·thod′i·cal·ly,** *adv.* —**im′me·thod′i·cal-ness,** *n.*

im·mi·grant (im′ə grənt), *n.* 1. one who or that which immigrates. 2. a person who migrates to a country for permanent residence. —*adj.* 3. of or pertaining to immigrants and immigration: *a department for immigrant affairs.* 4. immigrating. [< L *immigrant-* (s. of *immigrāns* moving into, prp. of *immigrāre*). See IM-¹, MIGRANT]

im·mi·grate (im′ə grāt′), *v.,* **-grat·ed, -grat·ing.** —*v.i.* 1. to pass or come into a new habitat or place of residence. 2. to come to a country of which one is not a native, for the purpose of permanent residence. —*v.t.* 3. to introduce as settlers: *to immigrate cheap labor.* [< L *immigrāt(us)* removed, gone into (ptp. of *immigrāre*). See IM-¹, MIGRATE] —**im′mi·gra′tor,** *n.*

—**Syn.** 1. See **migrate.**

im·mi·gra·tion (im′ə grā′shən), *n.* 1. act of immigrating. 2. immigrants. [IM-¹ + MIGRATION] —**im′mi·gra′tion·al, im·mi·gra·to·ry** (im′ə grə tôr′ē, -tōr′ē), *adj.*

Immigra′tion and National′ity Act′. See **McCarran-Walter Act.**

im·mi·nence (im′ə nəns), *n.* 1. Also, **im′mi·nen·cy,** state or condition of being imminent or impending; *imminence of war.* 2. that which is imminent; impending evil or danger. [< LL *imminentia.* See IMMINENT, -ENCE]

im·mi·nent (im′ə nənt), *adj.* 1. likely to occur at any moment; impending; *War is imminent.* 2. projecting or leaning forward; overhanging. [< L *imminent-* (s. of *imminēns* overhanging, prp. of *imminēre*), equiv. to *im-* IM-¹ + *min-* overhang + *-ent-* -ENT] —**im′mi·nent·ly,** *adv.* —**im′mi·nent·ness,** *n.*

—**Syn.** 1. near, at hand. IMMINENT, IMPENDING, THREATENING apply to that which menaces or portends misfortune or disaster. IMMINENT is applied usually to danger or evil that hangs, as it were, over one's head, ready to fall at any moment: *Because of recent heavy rains, a flood was imminent.* IMPENDING is similarly used, but with less suggestion of immediateness: *A reform has been impending for some time.* THREATENING is applied loosely to that which indicates coming evil, or conveys some ominous or unfavorable suggestion: *threatening weather; a threatening sky; a threatening frown.* —**Ant.** 1. distant, remote.

im·min·gle (i ming′gəl), *v.t., v.i.,* **-gled, -gling.** to mingle in; intermingle. [IM-² + MINGLE]

im·mis·ci·ble (i mis′ə bəl), *adj.* not miscible; incapable of being mixed. [IM-³ + MISCIBLE] —**im-mis′ci·bil′i·ty,** *n.* —**im-mis′ci·bly,** *adv.*

im·mit·i·ga·ble (i mit′ə gə bəl), *adj.* not mitigable; not to be mitigated. [< LL *immītigābil(is)* that cannot be softened. See IM-³, MITIGABLE] —**im-mit′i·ga-bil′i·ty,** *n.* —**im-mit′i·ga·bly,** *adv.*

im·mix (i miks′), *v.t.* to mix in; mingle. [back formation from ME *immixt(e)* mixed in < L *immixt(us)* blended (ptp. of *immiscēre*), equiv. to *im-* IM-¹ + *mix-* (see MIX) + *-us* ptp. suffix]

im·mix·ture (i miks′chər), *n.* 1. act of immixing. 2. state of being immixed; involvement. [< L *immixt(us)* blended (see IMMIX) + -URE; see MIXTURE]

im·mo·bile (i mō′bil, -bēl), *adj.* 1. not mobile; immovable. 2. incapable of moving or being moved; motionless. [ME *immobile* < L *immōbil(is).* See IM-³, MOBILE]

im·mo·bi·lise (i mō′bə līz′), *v.t.,* **-lised, -lis·ing.** *Chiefly Brit.* immobilize. —**im·mo′bi·li·sa′tion,** *n.*

im·mo·bil·i·ty (im′ō bil′i tē), *n.* quality or condition of being immobile or irremovable. [late ME < LL *immōbilitās.* See IM-³, MOBILITY]

im·mo·bi·lize (i mō′bə līz′), *v.t.,* **-lized, -liz·ing.** 1. to make immobile; fix so as to be or become immovable. 2. *Finance.* a. to establish a monetary reserve by withdrawing (specie) from circulation. b. to create fixed capital in place of (circulating capital). 3. to deprive of the capacity for mobilization. Also, *esp. Brit.,* **immobilise.** [IMMOBILE + -IZE; see MORTIZE and cf. F *immobiliser*] —**im·mo′bi·li·za′tion,** *n.*

im·mod·er·a·cy (i mod′ər ə sē), *n.* immoderation. [IMMODERA(TE) + -CY]

im·mod·er·ate (i mod′ər it), *adj.* 1. not moderate; exceeding just or reasonable limits; excessive; extreme. 2. *Obs.* intemperate. 3. *Obs.* without bounds. [< L *immoderāt(us).* See IM-³, MODERATE] —**im·mod′er·ate·ly,** *adv.* —**im·mod′er·ate·ness,** *n.*

—**Syn.** 1. exorbitant, unreasonable; inordinate; extravagant. —**Ant.** reasonable.

im·mod·er·a·tion (i mod′ə rā′shən), *n.* lack of moderation. [< L *immoderātiōn-* (s. of *immoderātiō*). See IM-², MODERATION]

im·mod·est (i mod′ist), *adj.* 1. not modest in conduct, utterance, etc.; indecent; shameless. 2. not modest in